

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 162

By Dean

A RESOLUTION to honor the pastor and congregation of Central Baptist Church of Hixson on the celebration of their church's sixtieth anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of the General Assembly should recognize those venerable religious institutions and their congregations that, through their unflagging capacity for love, dedication of spirit, and faith in God, enrich the lives of people in their communities; and

WHEREAS, the good people of Central Baptist Church of Hixson comprise one such congregation that will be celebrating sixty years of service to the Lord and their community this year; and

WHEREAS, since 1951, Central Baptist Church of Hixson, which has also been known as Abba's House since 2005, has been providing for the religious, educational, and social needs of its community; the people of Central Baptist Church have quietly, methodically, and without fanfare ministered to their friends and neighbors and others around the world; and

WHEREAS, after fire destroyed the Hixson First Baptist Church in 1950, several of its members realized the need for another, more centrally-located church in Hixson, and thus was the Central Baptist Church born; and

WHEREAS, on the morning of April 15, 1951, the Reverend E. J. Bramlett delivered the church's first sermon to a congregation of eleven people and it was on November 4th of that year that the church was officially chartered. The first order of business for the newly-formed church was the election of the Reverend Bramlett as the congregation's first pastor; and

WHEREAS, the church held its first Vacation Bible School in June of 1957; elected its first deacons in September of that same year; hired its first Minister of Music in January of 1958;

celebrated the opening of a new, 500-seat sanctuary on November 6, 1960; instituted dual services in April of 1973; moved into a new, 1,700-seat sanctuary in April of 1977; and opened the Abba's House worship center and the International Outreach Center in 2005; and

WHEREAS, since 1979, the congregation has been ably led by senior pastor Ron Phillips, who has dedicated himself to spreading the message to all in need. He is the host of a daily radio show, "CenterPoint," the host of the weekly television program *Ron Phillips from Abba's House*, and the author of more than twenty books, including *Awakened By The Spirit*, *Vanquishing The Enemy*, *Our Invisible Allies*, and *Everyone's Guide to Demons & Spiritual Warfare*; and

WHEREAS, Central Baptist Church of Hixson has stood on the rock-solid foundation of Christian belief, service, and love for sixty years, serving as a bastion of faith and outreach to the people of Hamilton County; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend the pastor and congregation of Central Baptist Church of Hixson on the occasion of their church's sixtieth anniversary and offer our sincerest wishes for their continued prosperity in serving the Lord's mission and ministering to their fellow human beings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.